

**2017-2018
CONFIRMATION**

**PARENT/STUDENT
HANDBOOK**



CARMEL
— UNITED METHODIST —
CHURCH

CARMEL UMC CONTACT INFORMATION

Carmel United Methodist Church

621 S Rangeline Road
Carmel, Indiana 46032
Phone: 317-844-7275

Helene Foust

Director of Youth Ministry

Cell/Text: 317-437-2021
hfoust@carmelumc.org

Kevin Andrews

Minister to Youth

Cell/Text: 317-519-3596
kandrews@carmelumc.org

Rev. Patti Napier

Senior Pastor

Phone: 317-844-7275
pnapier@carmelumc.org

CONFIRMATION AT CARMEL UMC

Our Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Goals

The CUMC Confirmation program is designed to help students:

- Follow Jesus, grow in their relationship with Jesus, and examine their faith in Jesus.
- Strengthen their relationship with the Body of Christ (church).
- Understand the role of a member of Carmel UMC and the United Methodist Church.
- Develop a healthy concept of mission and service.
- Equip families to grow in their faith together.

Confirmation Program Basics

The following are highlights of the Confirmation Program at Carmel UMC:

Confirmation will be offered once per year, from September - May.

Confirmation is designed for students in grades 6-8.

Parents of confirmation students are invited to participate in our NEW Parent Connect to equip families to continue the conversation at home.

Each lesson will be in an interactive learning environment. We will take time to explore all of the “Whos, Whats, Whens, Wheres & Whys” to help students establish their own beliefs with biblical truth as their foundation, not force beliefs on them (that would be “conformation”). Each topic will be explored at the group’s pace. Some topics will require more weeks than others.

Sunday Morning Confirmation Schedule:

9:00 AM	Welcome, Announcements, Story Sharing (Coffee and Snacks in the Hub Cafe)
9:15 AM	Large Group Session (Main topic introduced)
9:35 AM	Student Small Group Session (Formatted for conversation on the main topic)
9:35 AM	Parent Small Group Session (Formatted for conversation on the main topic)
10:15 AM	Goal Setting/Journaling
10:30 AM	Closing Prayer
10:45 AM	Worship with your family

Student Expectations

Each student will be expected to:

Attend confirmation classes, retreats and events. You may miss up to 3 classes, with a parent note explaining the absence. Depending on the class missed, make-up projects may be required.

Attend worship services regularly.

Traditional Worship: Sundays at 9:00 and 10:45 AM in the Sanctuary

Contemporary Worship: Sundays at 9:00 and 10:45 AM in the Family Life Center

Intersect Youth Worship: Sundays at 5:00 PM in The Hub

Bring your Bible to class each week. We will be using the NLT Study Bible, which will be given to each student during our first class.

Help to create a warm, safe and respectful environment, so that learning and sharing can take place.

Parent/Guardian Expectations

Parents are expected to:

Arrange family schedules to allow for your child's full participation in confirmation classes and activities.

Take seriously your child's faith development and faith questions.

Honor God and your child by not forcing a decision if he/she is not ready or willing to be confirmed.

Families are encouraged to:

- Attend weekly worship services together
- Pray together
- Share scripture and devotional readings together
- Talk about faith with one another
- Share insights arising out of classes and worship services
- Explore opportunities for family mission & service

Confirmation Calendar

PARENT/STUDENT ORIENTATION: 8/20/17 11:00 AM

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 9/3/17

FALL RETREAT: 9/22-23/17

(Topics: Who is Jesus? What does it mean to follow Jesus?)

SPRING CONFIRMATION RETREAT - 4/27-29/18

(Topics: Baptism, Communion, The Great Commission)

SERVICE PROJECTS

Intergenerational Project - 10/8/2017

Soups On - 2/11/2018

INTERVIEWS

Week of 5/7/2018

CELEBRATION DINNER & REHEARSAL

5/19/2018 at 4:00 PM

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Gather: 9:30 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM

Reception: 11:45 AM

CLASS SCHEDULE & TOPICS

SEPTEMBER

- 10 Intro to Confirmation & Bible 101
- 17 Who am I?
- 24 Big Questions: Did God create everything?

OCTOBER

- 1 Trinity
- 8 Fall Service Project
- 15 No Class - Fall Break - Worship Field Trips
- 22 Grace
- 29 Big Questions: Did God create the devil?

NOVEMBER

- 5 Prayer (Lord's Prayer, how to pray)
- 12 Big Questions: Can I do something bad enough to make God stop loving me?
- 19 Prayer (how to listen/answered vs. unanswered prayer)
- 26 No Class - Thanksgiving Weekend - Worship Field Trips

DECEMBER

- 3 Big Questions: Am I really supposed to believe Mary was a virgin?
- 10 Spiritual Gifts
- 17 Stewardship
- 24 No Class - Service Opportunity: Christmas Eve Worship greeters, acolytes, readers, music
- 31 What does a disciple do? Evangelism - Telling the story

JANUARY

- 7 What does a disciple do? Serving - Living the story
- 14 No Class - Winter Blast
- 21 The First Christians
- 28 Big Questions: If there is only one God, why are there so many religions?

FEBRUARY

- 4 Reformation and Methodist History Part 1
- 11 Winter Service Project - Soups On
- 18 Worship Field Trip (Optional)
- 25 Big Questions: Can I be a Christian without going to church? (Methodist History Part 2)

MARCH

- 4 Repentance
- 11 Salvation
- 18 Big Questions: How do I stop doing things I know I shouldn't?
- 25 No Class - Palm Sunday

APRIL

- 1 No Class - Easter
- 8 Worship Field Trip (Optional)
- 15 Persecution/Cost of Discipleship
- 22 Big Questions: Can you accept the theory of evolution and still be a Christian?
- 29 No Class - Confirmation Retreat

MAY

- 6 This Is My Story
- 13 No Class - Mother's Day
- 20 Confirmation Sunday